

**PATENT** 

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20231.

Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Vishnu K. Agarwal

Attorney Docket No.: 501082 .13 (98-0616.12)

Serial No. : 09/652,968

Group Art Unit

: 2815

Filed

: August 31, 2000

Examiner

: Jose R. Diaz

Title

: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING AGAINST OXIDATION OF A

CONDUCTIVE LAYER IN SAID DEVICE

**Box RCE** Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

## AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows

## In the Claims:

Please amend claims 43, 44, 76 and 77 as follows:

A method of passivating a multiplayer conductive structure, 43. (Amended)

comprising:

layering a first conductive material;

introducing a selection of N2/H2, N2, and NH3 plasma to said first

conductive material;

releasing nitrogen from said plasma with electromagnetic energy;

and